



A MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR IOWA EDUCATORS

School Leader Update

February 2010

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IOWA RECOGNIZED

A policy and practice analysis brief from UCLA's Center for Mental Health in Schools shows Iowa is one of only eight states that provides a comprehensive system of learning supports for students.

State Education Agencies & Learning Supports: Enhancing School Improvement (<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/seals.pdf>) spotlights how state agencies function to provide a comprehensive system of learning supports for their students.

Iowa, Colorado, Delaware, Hawaii, Kansas, Louisiana, Ohio, and Vermont were noted for organizing around tearing down barriers and supporting teaching and learning.



Updated snow day guidance

This winter has been harsh; we all agree that spring cannot come soon enough.

Just two years ago, the winter of 2007-2008 presented unique challenges because the worst of the weather conditions occurred late in the season, leaving schools and school districts with very few options for making up missed days.

Thus, in March of 2008, the Iowa Department of Education (DE) permitted schools and school districts to prospectively lengthen the school day to make up for days missed because of inclement weather. That flexibility was limited to the unique circumstances of that year.



Judy Jeffrey, Director

Many school administrators have asked the DE to permit lengthening of the school day once again this year.

Other school administrators have expressed the view that adding time to the end of remaining school days is not a sound educational practice.

To honor the fact that Iowa is a local control state, and to recognize that we do not know what the remainder of the winter season will yet bring, the DE is issuing updated snow day guidance. *Please see page 2 of this issue of the School Leader Update for this guidance.*

In addition, the DE has a series of frequently asked questions on its website that address snow days. Please visit <http://www.iowa.gov/educate/> for this information.

As instructional leaders, the first responsibility of school officials is to provide quality learning time for students. This entails providing full days of instruction to students and only adding instructional time to remaining school days as a last resort. It is the policy of this state that 180 instructional days is the MINIMUM required for optimal learning. Iowa students are in a global competition and we must maintain opportunities for them to participate in a quality learning environment.

- Judy Jeffrey



RACE TO THE TOP application submitted

Iowa has submitted its Race to the Top application, seeking \$212 million dollars to help advance innovation in our state's education.

The Iowa Department of Education (DE) submitted the grant application by the Tuesday, January 19, 2010 deadline.

The DE staff thanks all Iowa education leaders for engaging in the application process. Staff at the DE realize that the U.S. Department of Education set a short timeline to complete the application and the time committed was invaluable in reaching the deadline.

For a complete list of Iowa school districts that signed on to participate in the Race to the Top plan, please visit www.iowa.gov/educate.

These districts will be receiving a letter confirming their participation in Iowa's application.

The U.S. Department of Education will announce in April which of the 41 states that applied in this first round will receive funding.

Snow day guidance for 2009-2010

The following is updated guidance for the 2009-2010 school year regarding making up snow days, or days when a school district temporarily closes its buildings due to inclement weather and/or related issues.

A school or school district may add instructional time to remaining school days if ALL of the following occur:

- The local school board makes a finding that to add days onto the end of the school's calendar will substantially interfere with summer educational opportunities for students or staff. In addition, the local school board makes a finding



that the missed days cannot be effectively replaced by school being held on weekend days, by reducing the number of scheduled vacation days for the remainder of the school year, or by adding on to the end of the year.

- The local school board makes a finding that specifies *how staff will provide a quality learning environment for students* by adding instructional time to remaining school days. To this end, the Iowa Department of Education (DE) requires schools to add no less than 30 minutes to each day if pursuing this option.
- Sports-related closures must be made up as whole days. (See item regarding these closures in Legal Lessons on page 10.) This revised guidance applies only to weather-related closures.

This is to be done prospectively only. A school or school district may not go back and add up time exceeding 5.5 hours from each day already passed to achieve the equivalent of 180 days.

Nor may a school or school district merely add up the time exceeding 5.5 hours from each day yet to come to get in some make-up time.

Example: Classes are conducted from 8:10 a.m. - 3:10 p.m. with a 30 minute lunch. So, there are 6.5 instructional hours. The 8:10 a.m. - 3:10 p.m. has been the schedule all year. The hour over 5.5 hours does not "count" as make-up time.

What IS allowable is to extend class time to meet from 7:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m., with a 30-minute lunch. Now the school or school district has an extra 30 minutes per day (11 days = one make-up day).

Finally, schools and school districts are reminded when developing their calendars for next year (and subsequent years) to consider Iowa's climate.

It is reasonable to build in some days that can be used as make-up days.

If doing so, for the benefit of staff, students, and students' families, please state so upfront that certain identified days WILL be used by the school as make-up days if needed.

Visiting Teachers from Spain Program

During the past nine years, the Iowa Department of Education (DE), in coordination with the Ministry of Education of Spain, has been offering Iowa schools the option of recruiting highly qualified Spanish educators through the Visiting Teachers from Spain Program.

The program assists districts in staffing difficult-to-fill teaching positions. To date, over 50 teachers from Spain have been teaching in Iowa schools.

"Our students were treated to new cultural experiences while learning Spanish from highly qualified teachers [...] from Spain," said Steve Lane, superintendent of CAL Community School District, Latimer, Iowa. "I would highly recommend the Visiting Teachers from Spain Program to any administrator who needs to recruit a Spanish teacher. Your newfound friendship will be a life-altering event that you will enjoy tremendously!"

For program information, please visit the following website http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=555&Itemid=575 or go to the DE's website, look to the bottom right and select the link "A-Z program list," and look under "v" for the visiting teachers from Spain program for more program information.

For additional information contact John Scott (515-281-3805 or john.scott@iowa.gov) or John O'Connell (515- 249-0334 or john.oconnell@iowa.gov).

Iowa Teachers Teach in Taiwan

The Iowa Department of Education has an agreement with the Ministry of Education in the Republic of China (Taiwan) that offers experienced and newly licensed Iowa elementary teachers the opportunity to teach in Taiwanese schools for one academic year.

Participants work with local Taiwanese teachers to develop curriculum and to teach English to elementary students. Recent participants have found the experience extremely fulfilling and worthwhile.



The application and a "frequently asked questions" document are found at: http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=689&Itemid=1. Applications must be postmarked by March 26, 2010.

For additional information, contact Becky Griglione at 515-281-3170 or rebecca.griglione@iowa.gov.



HISTORY TEACHER of the year

March 1, 2010, is the deadline to nominate outstanding history teachers for the "Preserve America History Teacher of the Year Award."

The award recognizes outstanding American history teachers and the crucial importance of American history education. Winners are selected from each state, and from those finalists, a national honoree is recognized as the Preserve America History Teacher of the Year.

This year, the award is open to middle and high schools (grades 7-12) American history teachers. Nominees must have at least three years of classroom experience in teaching American history and demonstrate evidence of creativity and imagination in the classroom.

Submit nominations at http://www.gilderlehrman.org/education/htoy_overview.php.

Contact Cheryl Mullenbach at 515-494-5610 or cheryl.mullenbach@iowa.gov for additional information.

SPECIAL EDUCATION law conference

The 11th Iowa Special Education Law Conference, sponsored by the Iowa Department of Education (DE), is on March 25 and 26, 2010 at the Hotel Julien Dubuque, in Dubuque, Iowa.

The conference provides information about staying in compliance and practical information about special education.

Conference speakers are nationally recognized, and general and breakout sessions are scheduled.

Examples of topics include Discipline, Section 504, Autism, Secondary Transition, Bullying of Students with Disabilities, and Services to Support Inclusion.

Space is limited to 350 registrants, and the targeted cost will be \$175 for both days. Single day rates and discounts for parents will also be available.

Registration, lodging, and other information is available on the DE website calendar of events at <http://www.iowa.gov/educate/calendar/calendar.html>.

For questions, contact Dee Ann Wilson (515-281-5766 or deeann.wilson@iowa.gov) or Thomas Mayes (515-242-5614 or thomas.mayes@iowa.gov).

Teach Iowa job website offers more

Teach Iowa, the teacher recruitment web site sponsored by the Iowa Department of Education (DE), has recently undergone redesign and technological updates.

Located at www.iowaeducationjobs.com, *Teach Iowa* is free to school districts seeking candidates and to educators looking for Iowa positions. Job categories now include specific teaching and administrative assignments as well as area education agency positions, classified job opportunities, and other openings.

The technology updates will also assist the DE in collecting data on job openings, job placements, candidate availability, and other related recruitment issues.

The DE welcomes feedback from school districts and candidates regarding the features in the new design. For more information or to provide input regarding *Teach Iowa*, contact Norma Lynch at 515-281-6038 or norma.lynch@iowa.gov.



Paraeducator recognition month

February is Paraeducator Recognition Month, and school districts and other educational agencies are encouraged to recognize the contributions of paraeducators.

The original proclamation recognizing paraeducators was issued by Iowa's governor in 2006. In January of 2008, Governor Chet Culver expanded the proclamation to be observed throughout the entire month of February.

According to the Iowa Department of Education 2009 *Condition of Education Report*, some 10,270 paraeducators ("aides") were employed in Iowa public schools in the 2008-2009 school year.

That number, reported in full-time equivalencies (FTEs), reflects an increase of 62 percent over the 6,341 FTEs reported by public schools in the 1997-1998 school year.

"As the educational system in Iowa evolves to face the challenges of the 21st century, paraeducators will continue to play a critical role in helping to meet those challenges," said Norma Lynch, Iowa Department of Education consultant for paraeducators.

A resource designed to assist schools in implementing effective paraeducator practices can be found at http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=773&Itemid=1297. Entitled *Guide to Effective Paraeducator Practices, Edition II*, the document can be reproduced in unlimited numbers.

For more information, contact Norma Lynch at 515-281-6038 or norma.lynch@iowa.gov.



Community Colleges

New report shows community college degree pays off for students

Students who complete a community college program earn higher wages, particularly in technical areas, according to a report released by the Iowa Department of Education (DE).

The *Annual Condition of Iowa's Community Colleges 2009* report, released January 14, 2010, includes a special focus on the workforce outcomes of students. The report finds that Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees are the most lucrative credential with a rate of return of 55.7 percent for a cohort of students who graduated or left college in 2002. This means that AAS recipients earned nearly 56 cents more for each dollar they invested in obtaining the two-year degree in a career and technical field. Over the six-year period of the study, completing an AAS degree was worth \$41,962 more than the cost of tuition, fees, and foregone wages while in school.

"Two-year career and technical programs are a great value for students; however, these programs are the most expensive for colleges to offer and with enrollment soaring, many are filled to capacity and have waiting lists," said Judy Jeffrey, director of the Iowa Department of Education.

Overall, students who completed a degree in 2002 had a 6 percent private rate of return compared with those who left college early. The report supports research nationally, which shows educated workers enjoy higher earnings and lower unemployment rates.

The report shows that certain program areas pay off more than others. The career and technical programs with the highest rate of return were in law and public safety, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), finance, manufacturing, architecture and construction, and health science.

A significant percentage of community college students do not enter the workforce directly, but instead transfer to four-year universities. The report underlines how important it is for transfer students to obtain a bachelor's degree. A cohort of students who were awarded Associate of Arts degrees designed for transfer to a four-year university, but who did not transfer, did not recoup the expenses and lost wages from not being in the workforce by the sixth year after graduation.

The workforce outcomes portion of the report is based on a study jointly conducted by the DE and Iowa Workforce Development.

The *Annual Condition of Iowa's Community Colleges 2009* report provides data on Iowa's 15 community colleges for fiscal year 2008-2009. The report includes information on enrollment, student demographics, credit and non-credit programs, human resources, college finances, and more.

The full report, presentations, and other documents may be found on the DE website at: http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1663&catid=183&Itemid=2471.

Student Success

- More than 53 percent of Iowa community college students graduate or transfer to a four-year university within three years.
- Iowa's graduation rate consistently outperforms the national average, however gaps between students of different racial and ethnic backgrounds persist.
- Seventy-two percent of adult literacy participants achieved their goal of entering postsecondary education.

Student Health and Nutrition

RADON MEETING

The Fourth Annual Region 7 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/State Radon Stakeholders' Meeting will be held March 2, 2010, at the West Des Moines Sheraton Hotel.

This meeting is being held for those who have a stake in protecting the public from exposure to radon in their homes, schools, and businesses.

EPA Region 7 and its partners, Iowa Department of Public Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, and American Association of Radon Scientists & Technologists seek to bring interested stakeholders together to discuss common issues and understand them from other perspectives, provide insight into the future, share, educate, and network.

There is no cost and registration is not required, but space is limited. Please e-mail dye.robort@epa.gov indicating your attendance. Please put "Region 7 Radon Meeting" in the subject line.

New web system to report illnesses

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) officials advise seasonal influenza may soon emerge.

Vaccination, as soon as possible, will help protect against this possible next wave. Please continue your prevention activities including frequent hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, staying home when ill, and wiping hard surfaces with soap and water to help stop the spread of influenza.

The website for the weekly Iowa influenza surveillance report is <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/IdphArchive/Archive.aspx?channel=FluReports>. Please direct questions or comments to Charlotte Burt at 515-281-5327 or charlotte.burt@iowa.gov.

The Iowa Department of Education (DE) and IDPH are pleased to announce the availability of a web-based reporting tool for schools experiencing high rates of absence due to illness. The purpose of this tool is to allow any school the ability to report days when absence due to illness is 10 percent and above of the school's enrollment.

This type of reporting has helped immensely in the tracking of the influenza pandemic and other outbreaks of illness occurring in schools. Your reports are reviewed by a team of infectious disease specialists on a daily basis, and in some cases local health departments are asked to help manage an outbreak in a school.

If your school experiences any single day of absence due to illness that is 10 percent and above, please submit a report on this website. Click on this link to access the survey: http://www.idph.state.ia.us/surveys/school_outbreaks/default.asp.

Schools must have their building and district code to use the survey. These codes may be found at http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=692:iowa-school-district-directories&catid=562:directories&Itemid=1506.

Transportation

"Best of the Best" in busses

The "Best of the Best" competition is scheduled for April 17, 2010, in Des Moines. The program will recognize school bus technicians for their contribution to safe school transportation in Iowa. The competition will include both a written knowledge exam plus a "hands on" competition, resulting in the "Best of the Best" in Iowa. The winner will then go on to compete at the national competition in September, 2010.

To participate in the competition, complete a registration form at http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1240&Itemid=2125. Registration forms must be submitted by March 1, 2010.

For more information, contact Max Christensen at 515-2814749 or max.christensen@iowa.gov.

Early Childhood Preschool Programs

Preschool grant application, assistance

The revised application, technical assistance guidance manual and timelines for the 2010-2011 Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children Grant will be posted on the Iowa Department of Education (DE) website at http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=940&Itemid=1279 by Friday, February 19, 2010. Funding for 2010-2011 is pending legislative appropriation.

Districts applying for year four grant funding may review the “2009-2010 Application Documents and Guidance” for information about grant writing requirements. However, the revised 2010-2011 application must be used for submission of the grant.

Area Education Agency (AEA) Early Childhood Consultants are available to provide information and support for school districts developing the grant application and planning implementation of the preschool program. AEA Early Childhood Consultants are listed on the DE website under “Contacts in Your Area.”

IQPPS program administrator update

For districts choosing to follow the Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (IQPPS), Standard 10 - Leadership and Management, Criteria 2 is a required criterion.

Qualifications for the preschool program administrator are described in this criterion, including the number of specialized credit-bearing hours.

After careful consideration and information from the Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE), Iowa Department of Education Administrative and Early Childhood staff, and school administrators, the following decisions have been made:



A person holding an administrative endorsement from the BOEE, which includes Prekindergarten (PK) meets the requirements of this criterion. If the program administrator does not hold an administrative endorsement from the BOEE, all bullets in IQPPS Standard 10, Criteria 2 are required.

For more information on the IQPPS, please refer to the above referenced website under “Guiding Practices – Program Standards.” For more information on the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children, please refer to http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=940&Itemid=1279 or contact Judy Russell at 515-281-4705 or judy.russell@iowa.gov.



STATE PRESCHOOL: know the numbers

In the third year of implementation of the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for four-year-old children, 175 districts (including consortium districts) and their community partners provide quality preschool to 13,666 four-year-old children.

To learn more, please review the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children legislative briefing for 2010.

This is available at http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1529&Itemid=2348.



Legislative Update

The contact for all legislative items is Konni Cawiezell (konni.cawiezell@iowa.gov or 515-281-3399).

Education tops start of 2010 session

The beginning of the 2010 legislative session began with education at the forefront as the Governor signed four education bills within the first two weeks.

The first bill, [Senate File 2033](#), included items to support Iowa's Race to the Top application. While Iowa has many strong education initiatives, the Iowa Department of Education (DE) identified key areas that would support Iowa's application, allow school districts to apply for additional federal funds, and contribute to education innovation.

To address these areas, the bill includes:

- Establishing Innovation Zone Schools and Consortiums. Iowa is looking at ways to foster innovation in more schools. This bill adds new concepts of innovation zone schools and consortiums into the charter school Code chapter.
- Removing the cap and repeal date for charter schools in Iowa. Currently, Iowa Code has a 20 charter school cap and a repeal date for all charter schools on July 1, 2011. The bill removes these restrictions.

The bill also addresses persistently lowest achieving schools (PLAS), which is a factor in several grants currently available from the U.S. Department of Education (USED) to assist school districts. The USED requires states to identify 5 percent of its school buildings as PLAS, which is approximately 35 schools in Iowa at this time. The USED has mandated four models of intervention. Schools identified as persistently lowest achieving must adopt one of the four models to receive the federal school improvement grant money and take advantage of other potential grant opportunities.

Senate File 2033 allows local school districts the ability to decide locally which, if any, of the four models they will employ to turn around their schools. Local school administration and teachers will mutually agree on which of the four intervention models they will use in order to access available federal money. If teachers and administrators don't agree on the model, they are not required to implement any of the intervention models and will not receive the additional funding.

Other bills signed by the Governor include:

[HF 2030](#), which requires Iowa school districts to spend down their unobligated (undesignated, unreserved) cash reserve fund balance to a level determined by the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) before levying additional property taxes to raise funds. According to the bill, school districts shall spend down their cash reserves to 20 percent of their unobligated funds prior to levying property and other taxes. In addition, the SBRC shall also review a school district's cash reserves upon a request for supplemental aid or modified allowable growth. If the SBRC determines the school district's cash reserve is excessive, the school district may be required to use those funds prior to levying additional property taxes. Details of this bill, including what is defined as excessive, will be determined through the administrative rules process.

[SF 2045](#), which delays establishing general aid allowable growth for fiscal year 2012, from 2010 to 2011. [SF 2046](#) delays establishing the categorical allowable growth to 2011. Both of these changes are to assist in state financial decision making based on the current economic situation.

Please remember to check <https://www.edinfo.state.ia.us/web/legisupdate.asp> for the most current listing of education-related bills in Iowa during the 2010 legislative session.



Legal Lessons

The contact for all Legal Lessons items is Carol Greta (carol.greta@iowa.gov or 515-281-8661).

Open enrollment primer

At the request of several school administrators, here is a rerun of the summary of the duties of school districts that receive late-filed open enrollment applications. ALL of the following information comes from the Iowa Department of Education (DE) Open Enrollment Handbook, at http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=649&Itemid=636. Open enrollment questions are to be directed to Lois Irwin, 515-281-8582, or lois.irwin@iowa.gov.

The table below indicates which district takes action:

	Receiving District	Resident District
OE filed on or before March 1	X	
OE filed after March 1	X	
OE filed after March 1 and alleges pervasive harassment or severe health need		X
Regardless of when OE filed, resident district has a diversity plan		X

Notification — Districts must notify parents of open enrollment deadlines, transportation assistance, and possible loss of athletic eligibility for open enrollment of students by September 30 of each school year. Notification shall also be provided to any parent/guardian who transfers into the district during the school year. It may be helpful to provide information more than one time during the year.

Board/superintendent action — The local school board may give superintendents the authority to approve, but not deny applications. If the applicant files under good cause, the board must act within 30 days of receiving the request. The receiving district will notify the resident district and the parent within 15 days of board action to approve or deny an application.

Denial — In order to deny OE based on class size of general or special education classrooms, the district must adopt an "insufficient classroom space" policy and review this policy annually. A district can deny an application based on insufficient classroom space, lack of appropriate program (a district does not have to hire additional staff to accommodate an OE applicant), or if a student will be under suspension or expulsion at the time of enrollment.

Rescind — A district can rescind an application due to a change in the student's program that cannot be accommodated by the district without hiring additional staff or due to an increase in enrollment that exceeds a class size policy. **An OE cannot be rescinded based on discipline or attendance.**

Late filed applications — the **receiving** district has an obligation to **deny** applications filed after March 1 unless the application meets good cause (see question # 10). The resident district does not have authority to act on an application filed after March 1 unless the applicant claims harassment or severe health need.

Harassment/Severe Health Need/Diversity Plan — In the case of applicants that claim harassment or severe health need, the **resident** district has the authority to approve or deny the application.

District Appeal Process — A resident district may appeal a decision of a receiving district's board to approve a late-filed enrollment request to the Director of the Iowa Department of Education. If the resident district believes that a receiving district has approved a late-filed OE request without good cause, the resident district may, within 15 days after the board action by the receiving district follow these procedures:

Submit an appeal to the director of the Iowa Department of Education.

The director, or director's designee, shall attempt to mediate (telephonic) the dispute to reach approval by both parties.



OPEN ENROLLMENT & Nonpublic Schools

Parents or guardians whose children are presently in a nonpublic school but who will attend a public school next year (2007-2008) have the open enrollment option available to them, but must comply with open enrollment deadlines.

Therefore, if parents want their child enrolled in a school district that is not their district of residence, they must file a request for open enrollment by **March 1, 2010**.

The open enrollment request must be filed with both the district of residence and the receiving district by this deadline.

The director, or designee, shall conduct a hearing and hear testimony from both boards (and designees).

The director shall render a decision within 10 days following the hearing. The local school board may appeal the director's decision to the State Board within five days of the decision.

Athletic-related dismissals reminder

The spring sports championships will soon be upon us. Schools that are fortunate enough to face the "problem" of whether to dismiss early or start late to allow the student body to have time to attend a match or a game, please remember the following:

Only weather-related early dismissals are exempt from the 5.5 hours/day requirement. A school that does not record 5.5 hours because it dismissed early for athletics must make up the day.

Consider this option: Give excused absences (but this is optional...depending on start time of event and distance to venue, it may be unreasonable for a student to leave early, in which case the absence would be unexcused) to students who desire to leave early, but instead of dismissing the entire school early, have study hall for all students who do not leave. Make sure sufficient instructional staff are willing to stay to preside over study hall. Because instructional staff was present to guide and instruct students for 5.5 hours, the school then may record this as a full instructional day. This is not always feasible...sometimes your staff want to leave early, too.

Here's the rule, verbatim:

281—12.1(9) Minimum school day. A school day shall consist of a minimum of 5½ hours of instructional time for all grades 1 through 12. The minimum hours shall be exclusive of the lunch period. Passing time between classes as well as time spent on parent-teacher conferences may be counted as part of the 5½-hour requirement. The school or school district may record a day of school with less than the minimum instructional hours if emergency health or safety factors require the late arrival or early dismissal of students on a specific day; or if the total hours of instructional time for all grades 1 through 12 in any five consecutive school days equal a minimum of 27½ hours, even though any one day of school is less than the minimum instructional hours because staff development is provided for the instructional professional staff or because parent-teacher conferences have been scheduled beyond the regular school day.

R&D School

The Research and Development Pre-K through Grade 12 Transition Team is meeting Tuesday, February 2, 2010, 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the Grimes State Office Building in Des Moines.

This statewide R&D school will support every Iowa school district by focusing on Iowa's educational priorities while creating innovative and promising instructional practices to support the research and development needed by Iowa's K-12 students and full-time practicing K-12 teachers.

Calendar

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|---------------|--|
| January 1 | • Juvenile Home Educational Program Budget |
| January 1 | • Reorganization or dissolution effective on next July 1 — last day to notify Iowa Department of Education |
| January 29 | • EASIER winter collection closes |
| January 31 | • Nonpublic School Transportation Reimbursement Claim—1st semester |
| February 1 | • Dropout Prevention Program— last day to resubmit an unapproved application |
| February 1 | • Whole Grade Sharing Agreement—last day for board to sign |
| February 1-28 | • Paraeducator Recognition Month |
| March 25-26 | • Eleventh Iowa Special Education Law Conference |

[Click here for a complete Iowa Department of Education Calendar](#)

It is the policy of the Iowa Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, gender, disability, religion, age, political party affiliation, or actual or potential parental, family or marital status in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code sections 216.9 and 256.10(2), Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d and 2000e), the Equal Pay Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 206, et seq.), Title IX (Educational Amendments, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 – 1688), Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.). If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by the Iowa Department of Education, please contact the legal counsel for the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319-0146, telephone number 515/281-5295; or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661, telephone number 312-730-1560, fax 312/730-1576, e-mail: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov



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